

NEWS FROM NICKWACKETT



VOL. 24 NO. 4

THE RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2017

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ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Business Meeting of the Rutland Historical Society was held on Friday October 20, 2017, at 7:00 pm at Tuttle Hall on the campus of the College of St. Joseph. A brief business meeting included reports by the President, the Secretary and the Treasurer.

An award was presented to the team of Ben Burdge and Ray Mooney for their work on the three part video "Ray Mooney's Memories: Rutland and Pop Culture" and their audio and video work on the enhanced version of the 1941 silent film that was originally produced by the Rutland Lions Club in April 1941 for members of the Vermont National Guard stationed at Camp Blanding in Florida to provide "a touch of home." After the adjournment of the business meeting there was a first showing of the film in a theater setting. The invitation to the public brought a larger than normal attendance to the annual meeting. Light refreshments were served.

Nominees elected at the annual meeting were:

Pres.	Jake Sherman
V.P.	Lloyd Davis
Sec.	Audrey Allaire
Treas.	Helen Davidson
Dir. (2 yrs.)	Barbara Giffin
Dir. (2 yrs.)	Corey Kennedy
Dir. (2 yrs.)	Doreen McCullough

Continuing Directors are: Alvin B. Fiegel, Richard J. Guyette, and Dr. Andrew W. Zak.

Barbara Giffin was re-elected as Chairperson of the Board at the November Board meeting.

RAILROAD SHOW

The Rutland Railway Association held its 6th Annual Train Show on September 30th at the College of St. Joseph. Carolyn Ranftle and Jim Davidson demonstrated the Society's website and sold its Rutland Newsliner disc. This was a great opportunity to network with the many attendees interested in Rutland History.

ANNUAL SALE

The annual sale held October 7th and 8th was quite successful. Material left over from the sale was donated to the Open Door Mission. The Society realized over \$800.

HALLOWEEN PARADE

The Halloween Parade that was held this year on Saturday October 28th was a great success. The weather was wonderful and Nickwackett Nick's new outfit was a great standout. The crowd attending the parade was six and seven deep on each side of the parade route. This year's attendance may have been the largest ever. Thanks are due to all our members who helped with our presentation.

RUTLAND HERALD PROJECT

The Rutland Herald has moved from its old location on Wales Street to 77 Grove Street, the former CVPS building. The Wales Street building is up for sale and the Rutland Herald has donated many of its old newspapers to the Rutland Historical Society. The Society now holds papers up to 1970. The later papers have been removed to the new Herald location.

HISTORICALLY SPEAKING ON CHANNEL 15 IN RUTLAND

The Society produces a new program each month. The series includes interviews and historical pictorial material in a rather flexible TV magazine format. The programs can be seen Wednesdays at 4PM, Thursdays at 1:30PM, and Fridays at 7:30PM. DVDs of past episodes can be obtained from Rutland Regional Community Television, 1 Scale Avenue, Suite 108, Rutland, VT 05701-4460. They are \$10 for each episode. Make checks payable to RRCT. Include \$2.50 for shipping and handling. Personal pickup is available. Call (802) 747-0151 for further information. Consult the Society website (rutlandhistory.com) for a complete listing of past shows.

To watch the current or previous episode of *Historically Speaking* in streaming video on your computer: (1) go to the Society website (rutlandhistory.com), (2) click on "Historically Speaking," and (3) click on the second paragraph which will link you to the Video On Demand Library on the PEG-TV website. In the search box at the top of the video player, type in "Historically Speaking" then click on the magnifying glass button to the right. You should get a choice of the two most recent programs.

Historically Speaking # 158

"Photos from rutlandhistory.com."

Jim Davidson hosts this program that looks at sample photos from the various collections in the Image Gallery, which has over 800 images. Each collection can be viewed in its entirety on the rutlandhistory.com website in the Image Gallery section. Many collections have 80 or 90 images each. In the Society's Quarterly Publications section, the website has numerous issues that are filled with illustrative photos. The historical videos section also contains still photos.

RUTLAND HALLOWEEN PARADE: HIJINKS & HISTORY

This is a video history of the Rutland Halloween Parade. The program, which is dedicated in memory of Tom Fagan, is narrated and produced by Ben Burdge on behalf of the Rutland Historical Society and can be viewed on the Society website at rutlandhistory.com in the video section. This is a 35 minute production. Many video clips from older parades are included as are clips from comic books that illustrate the role of the New York City comic book industry in Rutland's Halloween parade.

COMMITTEE CORNER

President

Jake Sherman – 770-0927

Board Chairperson

Barbara Giffin – 779-1669

Curator

Jim Davidson – 773-7525

Membership Secretary

Robert Perkins – 773-0184

Society Historian

Mary Segale – 773-2326

Chairpersons:

Collections Committee

Ron Hemenway – 775-6581

Program Committee

Jim Davidson – 773-7525

Publications Committee

Jake Sherman – 770-0927

Research Committee

Rosemary Bradley –
773-9411

Website Committee

Doreen McCullough –
776-5232

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

In August the Human Resources Committee met to focus on the issues of recruiting new active volunteers and creating new outreach projects to assist in this goal. President Jake Sherman, Chairperson of the Board Barbara Giffin, Assistant Treasurer Michael Messier, Board member and Chairperson of the Website Committee Doreen McCullough, Membership Secretary Bob Perkins, and Curator and Chairperson of the Human Resources Committee Jim Davidson. All graciously agreed to attend.

The first item on the agenda was a brief report from the Membership Secretary that there is steady loss of membership that is not being replaced by new members.

The second item involved the question of who are the people and organizations with whom the Rutland Historical Society needs to connect? Some people and some are organizations. These became called the TARGETS.

The third item asks how can the Rutland Historical Society convey knowledge of the activities and potential of the Society to these TARGETS?

The next step was creating a preliminary list of TARGET ideas in random order. This list is published here and on page four. Can you help in some way? Can you contribute additional ideas? Contact Jim Davidson at (802) 773-7525. Targets are *(continued on page four)*

WEBSITE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Website Committee is currently working on the development of new software for the website. The software we are using is being phased out, thus it has become time for a change.

The content of the current website is safe. After 12 years we recognize that some changes in structure are needed. All content will remain. All work on changes is being done on a test site where we can play with and check out changes before anything happens.

PERSONNEL NOTES

Two of our most active volunteers, Ron Hemenway, keeping collections in order on the top floor, and Robert Ranftle, keeping order in the basement, are both recovering from serious surgery. Please keep them in your prayers.

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Is it time to renew?

Please check the date above your name on the mailing label.

If the date on your label is 2016 or earlier, your grace period has expired and this is the last Quarterly you will receive unless you renew by January 31, 2018.

If the date on your label is 2016, your dues for 2017 are now due. Please use the membership form on this page.

If the date on your label is 2017 or later, your dues are up to date. Thank you.

Please note the spot on the form for a donation beyond the dues. Any donation would be appreciated.

• • • • • Rutland Historical Society – Membership Form • • • • •
 • 96 Center Street, Rutland, VT 05701-4023 •
 • Phone: 802-775-2006 •

• First Name Last Name •

• Street Address or Post Office Box •

• City or Town State ZIP Code •

• Phone (optional) Email address (optional) •

• \$8 Student \$8 Senior (62+) \$10 Regular •
 • \$20 Contributor \$50 Sponsor •
 • \$200 Life (Individual only) •

• If making an additional donation, please check here and enter the donation amount. •

• Second Person at same address (if any). No additional fee. (Not available for Student or Lifetime memberships.) •

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HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE REPORTED CONTINUED

TARGETS *(Continued from page three)*

1. Service clubs (Presentations about the RHS to such as Lions, Kiwanis, Rotary etc.)
2. Churches (Invite volunteers to help develop their church history.)
3. Schools & colleges (Connect with key educators & schools and colleges to expand use of RHS website and resources.)
4. Individual families (Connect with families interested in developing their family history by establishing a local Genealogy Club.)
5. Realtors Organization (Contact realtors to encourage gifts of RHS publications and gift memberships to new residents.)
6. Funeral homes (Contact to get links to their public obit files)
7. Connect with local radio stations for possible programs
8. TV Stations (Channel 3 Across the Fence etc. and Channel 5 local history pieces. Already connected with PEGTV.)
9. Rutland Recreation Department (Development of geo-caching groups. Work with new Rutland Halloween Parade Museum at Department.)
10. RHS members from a distance (Those who would like to volunteer to do transcription of documents or research etc.)
11. Linking RHS website (Connect with many local websites)
12. Connect with senior residences where mobile folk may have interest in volunteering such as The Meadows, Parker House, et al)
13. American Legion & VFW (Help to develop a virtual Loyalty Day celebration.)
14. Moose, Elks, Eagles etc. (Help develop histories of their organization.)
15. Library workshop type programs (Programs by RHS website committee on features of website and programs on RHS resources.)
16. Other non-profit agencies (Identify and investigate possible connection with their program.)
17. Publicize outreach for volunteers (Articles about specific volunteer opportunities in local papers, TV and websites.)
18. Place RHS entry on volunteermatch.org.
19. Rutland Young Professionals (Connect with their programs.)
20. RSVP (Contact Michelle Dauphine. Physical help with some projects.)
21. Rutland Chamber of Commerce (Connect to some membership or role with them.)
22. Boy Scouts (Contact re: some merit badge opportunities at RHS.)

**THE FACILITIES OF THE
RUTLAND HISTORICAL
SOCIETY ARE OPEN ON:
MONDAYS 6-9 PM &
SATURDAYS 1-4 PM**

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Tel. (802) 775-2006. William Notte - Editor